Tacoma Community College  
Board of Trustees Special Meeting  
November 28, 2016 – 10:30 a.m.  
Building 12 – Board Room

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER
Chair Ryan called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION
Attendees including approximately 30 people, including Dr. Ruhland, classified staff, exempt staff, faculty members, and Patty Green one of the three authors of the letter to the Board dated November 9, 2016 regarding the performance of President Ruhland. Later in the meeting, Mary Fox and Dave Howard the letter’s second and third authors arrived. Chair Ryan announced the board would go into executive session for one hour to consider the letter and its contents. All persons were excused except the four attending Board members and AAG, Rick Brady.

III. RECONVENE INTO OPEN PUBLIC MEETING
At 11:35 a.m. the board reconvened into open Public Meeting. No action was taken by the board based on matters covered in Executive Session. The Chair announced that the Board would go back into Executive Session for approximately fifteen minutes.

IV. BOARD ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION
At 11:50 a.m. the open board meeting reconvened.

The following comments were made by board members:
Board member Dunbar:
The board held a healthy discussion centered on the letter submitted by the faculty. The board would have preferred that the letter had been addressed to Dr. Ruhland. The board understands that all members of the campus community; faculty, staff, administrators and board, care about the students and their success.

Board member Curtis:
The board appreciates the importance of the issues that have been raised and the opportunity to hold discussions. It is also important that we take this opportunity to listen to one another as these discussions continue. Everyone here is working for the students. Faculty in particular shape our students. Encouraged faculty to allow the board to continue their discussions.

Board chair Ryan:
The board held a robust discussion. The board appreciates the faculty concern and caring for the students and the college. Everyone; faculty, staff, administrators and board are focused on the students. The board takes this matter very seriously and will continue with active discussions, careful thought, and continued work on the issues. Unless there was a motion made by member of the board, there would be no action taken as a result of the Board meeting. There may be additional discussion at the next board meeting.

Board member Dunbar concluded by stating that Dr. Ruhland is at TCC because she cares about students and student success. The board intends to work with Dr. Ruhland on issues raised by the faculty.

No action was taken by the board based on matters covered in Executive Session.

V. ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

NOTE: A request to make public comment was made by a member of the audience. Public Comment was not on the meeting agenda and therefore not allowed.

Robert Ryan, Chair